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PATENT 10

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

5-20-99

APPLICANT(S): William Alan Burris	
APPLN. NO: 09/004,903	EXAMINER: B. Morrison
FILED: 9 January 1998	ART UNIT: 1724
TITLE: VENTED BATCH LIQUID PURIFIER	

RESPONSE TO OFFICE ACTION MAILED 3 FEBRUARY 1999

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

RECEIVED

MAY 07 1999

GROUP 1700

Dear Sir:

AMENDMENT**In the Drawings**

Five sheets of formal drawings are enclosed with this response, along with a letter to the Official Patent Office Draftsman. Corrections have been made for errors in FIGS. 3 and 4. Downstream vent pump 30 has been deleted from FIG. 3 and added to FIG. 4. These changes have been made to accurately express applicant's original intention and to eliminate inconsistencies between the drawings and the specification.

In the Claims

Please cancel claims 3 and 64 and amend claims 1, 4, 22, 35, 57, and 65 as follows:

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1. (AMENDED) In a batch liquid purifier combining an ozone generator producing ozone-containing gas, a reservoir for holding liquid during purification, and a pumping system operating during purification to pump the ozone-containing gas into contact with the liquid in the reservoir, an improvement comprising a vent pumping system arranged to exhaust air and ozone-containing gas from a vent space above the liquid in the reservoir, the vent pumping system accomplishing said exhaust by arranging a pump to flow gas through and out of the vent space.

[In claim 4, line 1, delete "3" and insert --1--.

In claim 22, line 1, delete "3" and insert --1--.

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~~3/35~~ (AMENDED) A system of venting a batch liquid reservoir during purification of the liquid by an ozone-containing gas pumped from an ozone generator into the reservoir, the system including:
a vent pumping system including a pump arranged [to draw gas from] downstream of a vent space above the liquid in the reservoir to exhaust ozone-containing gas from the vent space and maintain the vent space at a pressure less than atmospheric.

A₃

~~5/57~~ (AMENDED) A method of purifying a batch of liquid in a reservoir by means of an ozone-containing gas pumped from an ozone generator into contact with the liquid in the reservoir, the method including:

- a. withdrawing ozone-containing gas from a vent space above the liquid in the reservoir by admitting air to the vent space and exhausting air and ozone-containing gas from the vent space;
- b. closing the vent space with a reservoir lid that can be opened to provide access to the reservoir; and
- c. preventing liquid from entering a purified liquid dispensing system until the purified liquid dispensing system is operated.

[In claim 65, line 1, delete "64" and insert --57--.